



Presentation of:

\$1,000 Peacemaking Scholarships for 2018

High school seniors who live in Ward One and who are intending to pursue college education were eligible to apply. Ward One Councilman, Pastor Jason Capers has worked with Suez - United Water and Howard Industries to create Peacemaking scholarships to be awarded each year through our mentoring program, Brighter Tomorrows. Winners are to be recognized at the 1st City Council meeting in May along with the scholarship sponsor during a presentation.

Selection of the best-qualified candidates was based on:

1. **Activism** around one or more of the 5 peacemaking practices described below
2. **Academic study** in any of these practices
3. **Career goals** as they relate to these practices
4. **Letter of recommendation**

The Peacemaking Scholarship recognizes five peacemaking practices:

- **NON-VIOLENT CONFLICT RESOLUTION** (Being an example to other students by demonstrating that it is ok to be different and that communication is the best way to solve problems).
- **RACIAL RECONCILIATION** (Working to bring people together, focusing on what they have in common, while helping people appreciate one another's differences, instead of fearing one another).
- **SOCIAL JUSTICE** (Confronting and stopping bullying and refusing to participate in or condone discrimination against others, including against one's self).
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE** (Being willing to do practical service in the community that changes the real world. Participation in service projects, and helping others less fortunate).
- **ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP** (Staying knowledgeable about current issues that face our community and being ready to suggest or help implement solutions in the classroom, school, and community).

Although it may be extraordinary for a young person to be extensively involved in issues as dramatic as social justice and racial reconciliation, the scholarship selection committee looks for the applicant(s) who show the most promise of growing into a leader and a peacemaker.

This year's Winners are _____,
and _____.

Each provided a typed essay describing their activities, studies, and career goals as they relate to one or more of the five peacemaking practices described in the application: (1) non-violent conflict resolution, (2) racial reconciliation, (3) social justice, (4) community service, (5) active citizenship. Each application was graded on the following 4 components of their application with the weighted scores and directions noted below:

1. **ACTIVISM:** List and describe activities or groups in which you have been involved, and explain how they relate to one or more of the five peacemaking practices. (40 points)
2. **ACADEMIC STUDY:** List and describe classes that you have attended, or taught, essays you have written (attach copies), books you have read, or other studies, and explain how they relate to one or more of the five peacemaking practices. (25 points)
3. **CAREER GOALS:** Describe your career goals and explain how they relate to one or more of the five peacemaking practices. (20 points)
4. **LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION:** Include a letter of recommendation from someone who is familiar with your peacemaking activities, studies and/or career goals.(15 points)

We have a wonderful community, a true City Beautiful. However, we need every man and woman of good will to work for and to encourage others to model non-violent conflict resolution, to strive for racial reconciliation, to promote social justice, to be involved in community service and to be an active citizen that works for peace. It is the calm voices of reason that must be empowered in our city and future generations. I appreciate Mr. Jerome Wyatt, President of the Jones County Board of supervisors for his leadership and helping to inspire this scholarship's format. Special thanks to principle Tito Lanier, and teachers Je Stephens, and Greg Read for being on the scholarship selection committee. I also appreciate Suez, and the local leaders of this company for helping to invest in our city and young peoples future. Howard Industries has also long invested in our schools and young people in countless ways and they are a valuable partner and employer for our community. They have shown themselves to be fully invested partners for our city as we work to improve the quality of life in our community in positive ways.

I am also happy to announce that Ward One's mentoring program Brighter Tomorrows will also be launching a "Summer of Service" program the first Friday in June, where young people who show up to work on a service project each week will be rewarded with a kayaking or fishing trip every week. We hope to be able to have enough funding and participation to complete 6 to 8 weeks of projects including building a wheelchair ramp for a disabled Ward One resident. More information will be provided in June! Thank you for your time today!